



**Minnesota Pest Management Association  
October 16, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Crooked Pint, Maplewood, MN 55117  
651-252-6500**

The following is a listing of those in attendance:

Stephen Kells: University of Minnesota  
Larry Ruffelt Sr.: Westside Pest Control  
Staci Johnston: Ecolab  
Matthew Eickman: Abra Kadabra Environmental Services  
Rich Hodgson: Orkin  
Erin Smilanich: Minnesota Department of Agriculture  
Caroline Kirby: Plunketts Pest Control  
Lance Watrin: Granite Pest Control  
Jason Scott: Univar  
Mike Fresvik: Minnesota Pest Management Association

Calendar year 2018 MPMA President, Larry Ruffelt Sr., opened the meeting at 11:30 AM, and calling for any old business, being none, he opened the meeting to new business.

MPMA President, Larry Ruffelt, asked for a roll call of those present.

**Dr. Stephen Kells: University of Minnesota:**

Dr. Kells opened the discussion with a review of information relating to the upcoming March 4 & 5, 2019 Minnesota Structural Pest Management Conference. The conference will again be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center in downtown Minneapolis. The conference agenda planning meeting has been held and Dr. Kells is contacting perspective subject matter speakers.

In addition, Dr. Kells is planning training for the following applicator categories:

Category J: Rights of Way  
Category P: Vertebrate Pest Control  
Fumigation category  
Category E: Turf & Ornamental

Dr. Kells is contacting the following states seeking approval of the conference to met the requirements for their Structural Pest Management training requirements:

Indiana  
Illinois  
South Dakota  
Iowa  
Michigan



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Rich Hodgson, Orkin, Director-Caroline Kirby, Plunketts Pest Control, Director-Brent Kostka, Bug Busters, Director-Rob Greer, Rove Pest Control, Past President

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MPMA will keep members current on the status of the above mentioned applicator categories and state approvals.

Vendor exhibit locations will again be on the second floor and vendors will have the opportunity to present information during the Lightning Talk portion of the agenda.

### **Erin Smilanich: Minnesota Department of Agriculture:**

Erin presented information relating to the Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials (ASPCRO). The Association of Structural Pest Control Regulatory Officials is a professional association comprised of the structural pest control regulatory officials of any of the fifty states.

Purpose

- promote better understanding and efficiency in the administration of laws and other written documents of regulatory authority between states concerning the control and eradication of pests of structures and their immediate environs;
- promote the protection of the health and welfare of the citizens of each state;
- promote the protection of the environment against the misuse of pesticides;
- promote a more professional standard for the structural pest control industry; and,
- promote, conduct, and evaluate research consistent with the purposes stated herein.

ASPCRO will be holding their annual summer meeting in Minneapolis/St. Paul during the summer of 2020. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) will be hosting the meeting and will be seeking assistance with the following:

Will be looking for Vendor Tables  
Will need help setting up tours of Facilities  
Will need Vendor help in gifting goody bags  
Will need speakers for the Conference

MPMA will work with MDA as the planning proceeds for the Conference.

### **Caroline Kirby: Plunkett's Pest Control:**

Caroline presented information relating to Request for Project Ideas for 2019 under the Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) program.

PERC invites your ideas for new educational resources/projects to serve the nation's needs. Your ideas will be considered by the PERC Advisory Board. They may be related to: The newly revised Worker Protection Standard (WPS), Pesticide Applicator Certification and Training Regulations, and/or Other pesticide-related topics such as pollinator protection, IPM, and protecting air/water resources.

Projects could include brochures, fact sheets, posters, videos, manuals, exams, mobile apps/tools, web content, and/or other items. These materials will educate people, and potentially prevent pesticide exposure incidents that may affect the environment, the public, pesticide applicators and/or their families.



Please send us your project idea(s) no later than Friday, November 2, 2018 to have it considered by the PERC Advisory Board for the 2019 priority list. Ideas can be submitted via this link: <http://bit.ly/PERCin2018>. This is not a solicitation, but a gathering of input on resources that are needed. After the Advisory Board approves a project, PERC uses a competitive process to select the development team.

Some ideas already informally shared with PERC include: training materials for non-certified applicators of RUPs, based on CFR 171.201(d); Spanish translation of PERC's WPS Train the Trainer web-based course; revision to Core manual and exam bank; respirator training videos in English and Spanish to meet the annual training requirements for respirators under the WPS; and update EPA brochures on PPE selection and maintenance.

About PERC: PERC is funded by a 5-year cooperative agreement (#X8-83616301) between the U.S. EPA and the University of California Davis Extension, in cooperation with Oregon State University. It supports the development of resources and materials on the safe use of pesticides by applicators and handlers in agricultural, commercial, and residential settings. Many are already listed on our website: <http://pesticideresources.org/status.html>

Project idea receipt deadline: Friday, November 2, 2018. If you have any questions about this message, please direct them to PERC using the contact information below. Please share this announcement as appropriate.

Suzanne Forsyth, PERC Director UC Davis Extension 530-757-8603 email: [spforsyth@ucdavis.edu](mailto:spforsyth@ucdavis.edu)  
Kaci Buhl, PERC Deputy Director Oregon State University 541-737-8330 email: [kaci.buhl@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kaci.buhl@oregonstate.edu)

You can also contact Caroline Kirby, [ckirby@plunketts.net](mailto:ckirby@plunketts.net).

### **Matthew Eichman: Abra Kadabra Environment Services:**

Matthew brought forward a topic he has been observing and hearing from clients. This issue is the application of pesticides in close proximity to surface water.

Many of these clientele have homes or cabin adjacent to lakes or streams. At times clients may request questionable treatment; therefore applicators must have a thorough understand of the product label including specific application sites.

The applicators must also have a understanding of drift, the movement of the spray during application to a non-target location.

Matthew recommended that structural pest management applicators receive further training dealing with this concern.



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## **Mike Fresvik: Minnesota Pest Management Association:**

Mike opened discussion of the need for MPMA to select a new Board member, calendar 2019.

After discussion a motion was made, seconded, and approved for the selection of Matthew Eickman, Abra Kadabra Environmental Services. Welcome to the Board Matthew.

Next, attendees discussed the question of holding a MPMA sponsored reception at the 2019 Minnesota Structural Pest Management Conference. Mike reviewed the information from the MPMA Reception held in 2017. After discussion, the Board of Directors voted to sponsor a 2019 MPMA Reception. As MPMA moves forward with the planning, members will be routinely updated.

Lastly, Mike provided the MPMA Financial Status Report. As of October 10, 2018, the Minnesota Pest Management Association has a balance of \$32,446.89. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the Report.

MPMA President Larry Rufflett called for a motion to close the meeting. A motion was made and seconded, the meeting adjourned.

MPMA thanks you for your membership and support.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Mike Fresvik, MPMA  
Secretary/Treasurer  
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minnpest@gmail.com